

From: tamara
To: Nancy Rumrill/R9/USEPA/US|||EPA
Date: 06/03/2009 10:33 PM
Subject: letter to the editor

Water is our most fundamental natural resource. Here on Maui we don't have enough water to satisfy all of the competing demands: Restored stream flow, aquifer recharge, kuleana/riparian rights, corporate agriculture, golf courses, resorts and housing developments all want more than current levels and yet we continue to "waste" water at a rate of 3-5 million gallons a day. Not only is this water being "wasted" through the use of injection wells, studies by marine scientist have shown this nutrient rich effluent is destroying our precious coral reefs by over-feeding algae which in turn smothers the reef. However bleak the situation seems right now, there is room for hope; the technology and political will exist to use this opportunity to transition to a better long term water management strategy. There are economic stimulus funds going around right now. May we please have funds to update our waste water facility to a water management system that phases out the use of injection wells to create a win-win-win solution for people, environment and economy. Phasing out the use of injection wells will have long term benefits for ALL of Maui. We all need water, we all use the toilet and most all of us want to protect our reefs and oceans.

Tamara Paltin
4790 Lower Honoapiilani Rd
Lahaina, Hi 96761